

## **BIO**

Having grown up in Paterson New Jersey where he was born in 1940, Bob Miller followed in his father's footsteps after high school to pursue a career in accounting. He graduated from Rutgers University in Newark with a B.S Degree Cum Laude in 1960, married immediately thereafter and started his CPA career with an accounting firm that is now PricewaterhouseCoopers. In 1965 he left to join what was then the Manhattan Shirt Company where he remained until 1972 when Squibb Corporation, which had just acquired Charles of the Ritz, recruited him as its Vice President Finance.

He advanced rapidly up the Ritz corporate ladder becoming Senior Vice President Operations, President of the International Division, Executive Vice President and then in 1983, President and CEO. From 1975 through 1986, led by the International Division, Ritz registered increases in profitability averaging 23% annually, without any acquisitions. During his tenure at Ritz he worked directly with:

Yves Saint Laurent to develop and market Opium, one of the world's most popular women's fragrances, the men's fragrance, Kouros, other YSL fragrances and the YSL Beauté (cosmetic) line;

Gianni Versace to develop and market his first fragrances;

Linda Evans and John Forsyth of the Twentieth Century Fox Dynasty television cast to develop and market Forever Krystle and Carrington, the first fragrances ever based on a television show.

From 1983 to 1986 he was also on the Board of Directors of industry organizations, serving in 1986 as Vice Chairman of the Cosmetics, Toiletries and Fragrance Association (CTFA) and President of the Fragrance Foundation. In 1985 he was the recipient of the New Jersey Businessman of the Year Award.

He was also a founding member and president of COPIAT (Coalition to Preserve the Integrity of American Trademarks) an inter-industry association that petitioned the Administration and Congress to eliminate the gray market.

He was on the Board of Directors of Squibb from 1983 until 1986 when Charles of the Ritz was sold.

Having built a reputation as a "turn-around specialist," he was subsequently recruited as President and CEO by the Fur Vault, a fur retailer in serious financial trouble, but the downturn in the fur business was too much to cope with and three years later the company filed for bankruptcy and its ultimate dissolution.

Bob remarried in 1989 and now lives with his wife, a psychiatrist, in New York City and Blairstown, New Jersey. Together they have five children and seven grandchildren. He retired in 1992, undertook consulting work that interested him and later began writing fiction based on his almost thirty years of experience in the fashion, cosmetics and fragrance industry.

Someone once described Bob as an intelligent man with the discipline of an accountant, the creativity of an artist and the people skills of a diplomat, at home on a factory floor, a fashion runway or the halls of Washington—a fairly accurate description.